

H1N1 Flu 2009

Liga Medicorum Homeopathica Internationalis

The H1N1 flu is a respiratory infection caused by a strain of influenza virus of the type A, which normally causes outbreaks of influenza in pigs. The disease affects pigs almost exclusively, however, a new strain of virus, derived, in part from the human influenza virus, and, in part, from the pig influenza virus, has been demonstrated to be transmissible to humans and, worse, from human being to human being. Another concern that has arisen is the serious form of disease and, because of the high mortality rate of this strain of virus and of its capacity to be transmitted between humans, there is the concern that the H1N1 flu could become a global pandemic.

The H1N1 flu epidemic has spread rapidly in the past weeks. The World Health Organization increased the level of global pandemic alert from level 4 to level 5, which means that, even if the majority of the countries has not been affected yet, there are strong signs that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to organize a contingency plan is short. The increase in alert level indicates that the probability of an emergence of a global H1N1 influenza pandemic has grown during the last weeks.

It should be noted that there are reports of cases of influenza caused by other viruses which are not the H1N1. They must be distinguished from the epidemic of human influenza as they present different behaviors. The human influenza has a sudden appearance that evolves more quickly toward pneumonia, with severe attack on the

general state of the patient. On a parallel level, there are many cases that do not correspond to human influenza, or to seasonal influenza. They represent rather common colds that have no connection with influenza.

At present the homeopathic colleagues of Mexico have been able to identify indirectly, by the written reports of doctors in hospitals, the following symptoms:

Fever

- Proceeded by 40% great chills
- Persistent fever between 38.5 °C (101.3°F) to 39.4 °C (102.9°F) accompanied by fresh diaphoresis on the back, face and neck

Generalized weakness, adynamia without extreme prostration

Profuse sweating during fever

Sore throat

- Severe Pain by intake of solid initially and then even liquids

Scarce cough

- Non painful
- Dry
- In attacks

Constant arthralgias in the hands, elbows and shoulders at the febrile peak



Dr. Corrado Bruno

Dr. Corrado Bruno past president and Dr. José Matuk Prime Vice President of LMHI has given this documented experience of our Mexican Homoeopaths in the treatment of H1N1 and wants to disseminate this information. LMHI wishes to contribute to the application of homeopathic medicines in this pandemic. And to determine the "genius epidemicus" as fast as possible.



Dr. José Matuk

- Cold Applications amel

Retroocular headache or eyeballs pain ("My eyes hurt")

- With rest amel

Occipital and neck headache aggravated by being raised on a pillow

Some patients with occipital pain of throbbing type

Complications:

Pneumonia with infiltrated interstitial or multiple pockets

- Productive cough with yellowish expectoration

Between 48 and 72 hours the medical situation has developed or has become complicated. The symptoms are vague and have limited clinic homeopathy application, but, as the symptoms were obtained directly from a significant number of H1N1 confirmed infected patients, homeopathic medicine can be used.

Influenza ranks among the category of respiratory diseases, but, in reality, the whole body is disrupted when the person gets sick. In short, people affected are often very sick and are suffering from all or some of the symptoms:

- High fever.
- Headache.
- Clear nasal discharge.
- Sneezing.
- Cough, often becoming severe.
- Severe aches and pains.
- Fatigue for several weeks.
- Sometimes sore throat.
- Extreme exhaustion.
- Fever and pain throughout the body generally last from three to five days, but the cough and fatigue can last for two weeks or more.
- Mexican fever may be accompanied by nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Diagnostic Guides

Until now the guidelines that have been given to define a case of Mexican influenza (case definition / swine flu) by CDC (Influenza like/ illness ILI) are as follows:

- A confirmed case of influenza A H1N1 defines a person with an

acute breathing illness with laboratory confirmation of the A H1N1 influenza virus through the following laboratory diagnosis:

1. PCR/RT in real time

2. Viral Culture

- A probable case of infection by influenza A H1N1 defines a person with influenza type symptoms

1. Positive for influenza A, but negative for H1 or H3 influenza by PCR/RT

- A suspected case of influenza A defines people who do not meet the criteria at the top and have H1N1 negative tests:

1. Healthy person, under the age of 65 years, hospitalized with symptoms similar to the influenza.

2. Lives in a state (country) where no cases of influenza have been confirmed, but has traveled to a state (country) where there are one or more probable cases.

Homeopathic Medicines

Homeopathic medical treatment is individual, but in the face of an epidemic, we can obtain groups of drugs characterized by the peculiarities of the symptoms of the sick.

For this specific epidemic, we have obtained the following remedies for the symptoms found in different patients.

The symptoms listed above are the common symptoms of the disease that, for the homeopathic doctor, serve to show whether or not it is Influenza. However, they are not useful for the prescription of homeopathic medicines. The pattern and the individuality of the symptoms of each patient are what determine the prescription of a homeopathic remedy.

We have listed the symptoms for which these remedies have been indicated, without determining an epidemic genius. The drugs mostly indicated for this epidemic given by homeopathic Mexican doctors are the following:

Aconitum n

1. Fear will die because of the disease
2. Red Throat
3. Onset of the symptoms after exposure to cold

4. Harsh beginning
5. The symptoms appeared suddenly
6. Red Congested face
7. Muscle aches and pains

Belladonna

1. Red teary eyes
2. Red flushed face
4. High fever - greater than 39°C (102.2°F).
5. Acute inflammation of the throat
6. Throbbing Pain while coughing
7. Severe headache
8. Violent pulsations caused by the headache
9. Red face. Brilliant and Injected Eyes
10. Cannot stand the least light or noise

Bryonia Alba

1. Begins with sudden head pains
2. Worsened by body movement
3. Painful cough
4. Fever with chills.
5. Intense back and leg pain
6. Aggravated by the least movement, improved by rest
7. Extreme thirst for large amounts of liquid
8. Cold, red throat
9. Limb pain while walking.
10. Dryness of mucous

Arsenicum Album

1. Begins with arduous throat pain
2. Improvement by consuming hot drinks
3. Widespread cold, feels cold
4. He covers himself too much
5. Feels prostrated, tired, exhausted
6. Violent vomiting, and has frequent, but scanty diarrhea
7. Thinks will die
8. Burning evacuation
9. Cough after drinking
10. Agitated and anxious

11. Does not want to be alone

Eupatorium Perfoliatum

1. Fever that starts with chills, shivering and shaking
2. Back pain
3. Continued fever, with intense and insatiable thirst
4. Bone pain, as if they had been beaten
5. Back pain, as if it were broken
6. Snoring
7. Painful cough, aggravates the chest when coughing
8. Great pain of muscles and bones
9. Feels as if the back were dislocated
10. Congested face during fever
11. The sweating improves all the symptoms, except the headache

Mercurius Vivus

1. Begins with hoarseness and aphony
2. Catarrh, running nose, burning.
3. Sore throat as if it were raw meat
4. Dry cough, spasmodic
5. Fever with night sweats that do not improve
6. Constant thirst
7. Indented tongue
8. Halitosis
9. Very wary
- 10 Bone Pain

Gelsemium

1. Has a fever chill
2. Hand trembles
3. Abundant perspiration
4. Downcast
5. Intense muscle aches, with leg pain
6. Remains immobile in bed
7. Face congestion
8. Injected Eyes, sore throat
9. Dry cough, rapid pulse
10. Despite the fever, has no thirst
11. Depression and pain



Dr M.V. Wassenhoven

Dr Michel Van Wassenhoven. LMHI Secretary for Research requests all homeopaths in the world have to collect systematically all clinical data from patients presenting flu symptoms. The proposed data collection would occur on paper or (better) in a computerized format and it would be collected by mail michelw@homeopathy.be and later on it will be forwarded to an international center for statistical analyses, protocol will follow (retrospective analyze of clinical data). The first aim is the determination of the "geniusepidemicus" as fast as possible, the second aim to evaluate and compare treatments.

Explanation about Cases Report Form on Homeopathic treatment of Influenza (First consultation)

PHYSICIAN ID: identification of MD (secret code) beginning with the country letters (Ex: BE for Belgium) three ciphers and 3 letters (Ex: BE015MVW)

DATE: ##/##/##/##/##

SETTING: working area where patient was seen: PRI = Private office/ PUB = Public health outpatient service/ HOS = Hospital

PATIENTS ID: a combination of letters and ciphers specific for each patient.

AGE: in years (number).

SEX: M = Male; F = Female

LOCAL EPIDEMY: Reports of influenza virus in the community Y = Yes; N = No

ACUTE ONSET (less than 36 hours): Y = Yes; N = No

TEMPERATURE: in degrees Celsius value please (°C) ex: 37.7

INFLUENZA SYMPTOMS: some symptoms are specific for the disease (fatigue, malaise, sweats and/or chills, myalgia, headache, cough, rhinorrhoea, sore throat, nasal obstruction, red or tearful eyes, nausea, diarrhoea and possible others), please write in each box how intense the symptom is by using 0 for absent, 1 for mild, 2 for moderate and 3 for severe.

VIROLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS: if possible a determination of the virus would be welcome if A/H1N1. Y = Yes for positive result; N = No for negative results and ? for inconclusive results or in absence of determination.

SYMPTOMS FOR HOMEOPATHIC PRESCRIPTION: In order of importance/singularity for homeopathic prescribing, limited to 6 symptoms, please use a simplified repertory structure for description of the symptoms.

HOMEOPATHIC TREATMENT: Please write the name, dilution and dosage regimen of the homeopathic medicine prescribed (frequency of intake by day).

OTHER TREATMENTS: If other treatments are added to the homeopathic remedy (3 possibilities are open), please specify the scientific name and dosage regimen).

OVERALL HEALTH STATUS: Taking into account the answer to your question or your own judgment on "how bad you are now", you would rate that you are at this moment in a condition in a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means totally unable to do normal activities, worst health and 10 means fully able to do normal activities, best possible health.

CONCOMITANT DISEASES or TREATMENTS: situations that could have a negative impact on the situation such as patients with Chronic Bronchitis, Cardiac Insufficiency, Immunosuppressive drugs, etc.

Explanation about Case Report Form on Homeopathic treatment of Influenza (Follow-up consultations)

PHYSICIAN ID: same identification of MD (secret code) beginning with the country letters (Ex: BE for Belgium) three ciphers and 3 letters (Ex: BE015MVW)

PATIENT ID: same combination of letters and ciphers specific for each patient.

DATE: ##/##/##/##/## (more than one follow-up consultation for each patient is possible of course, date by date)

TEMPERATURE: in degrees Celsius value please (°C) ex: 37.7

INFLUENZA SYMPTOMS: follow-up of the specific symptoms for the disease (fatigue, malaise, sweats and/or chills, myalgia, headache, cough, rhinorrhoea, sore throat, nasal obstruction, red or tearful eyes, nausea, diarrhoea and possible others), please write in each box how intense the symptom is by using 0 for absent, 1 for mild, 2 for moderate and 3 for severe.

VIROLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS: may be the determination of the virus has been done in between and would be welcome if A/H1N1. Y = Yes for positive result; N = No for negative results and ? for inconclusive results or in absence of determination.

STOP of TREATMENT: Y = Yes; N = No

LOST DAYS: off work/holidays or school, a number please.

ADVERSE EFFECTS: short description of possible aggravation and short comments on it.

TREATMENT CHANGE: Y = Yes; N = No. If "Y" then fill the symptoms and remedy rows as in a first consultation.

OVERALL HEALTH STATUS: Follow-up of this status taking into account the answer to your question or your own judgment on "how bad you are now", you would rate that you are at this moment in a condition in a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means totally unable to do normal activities, worst health and 10 means fully able to do normal activities (totally cured), best possible health.

LMHI INFLUENZA SURVEY

Informed Consent (model)

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I agree I would be involved in this survey about Influenza.
 I authorize my M.D. to transmit anonymous clinical data from my file to the researchers.
 I understand that my participation is completely voluntary and I am allowed to leave the survey at each moment, without justification. This would not have any influence on my future treatments.

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